



**City of Santa Barbara
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Regular monthly meeting of
THE WESTSIDE CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The Westside Center Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carlos Guerrero at 7:00 PM at the Westside Community Center., 423 West Victoria Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Vidal Chiprez
Gloria Franco
Carlos Guerrero
Raquel Vela Mendoza
Jesús Rodríguez

Members Absent

Rosalina Palacios

Staff Present

Antonio A. Velasquez, Community Services Supervisor
Billy Goodnick, Landscape Architect

Liaisons Present

None

Guests

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It was moved (Franco) and seconded (Chiprez) to approve the minutes as read. Passed unanimously.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS: None

ANNOUCEMENTS: Billy Goodnick announced that the Bohnett Park construction would begin within the month and would be completed in late August.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Community Garden Report** – Staff announced that all garden plots have been rented with a waiting list of fifteen. Cerena Childress, our garden liaison, is in the process of completing this month a communal herb garden in the common area flower garden plots.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Combine Quarterly Advisory Committees meeting** – Members discussed possible agenda items for the combined meeting next month to be held on June 19. A quorum of the Committee will be available to attend.
- b. **Community Center Park Area Renovation Project** – Billy Goodnick, landscape Architect, was present to present the preliminary plans for the Community Center playground area improvements. The concept decided upon by public comment was to make it a kid friendly project. The project will consist of new fencing around the cul de sac, wall lighting, and benches in three locations. Climbing vines will be planted along the sound wall with the addition of palm trees near the street. The handball court will remain as will the half court for basketball. An extra hoop will be installed for young children. The old playground equipment will be replaced.
- c. **Communities for Healthy Kids** – The Committee unanimously agreed to partner with this effort and co-sponsor a recruitment dinner event at the Westside Center on May 28, 2008. Communities for Healthy Kids that hopes to recruit families for the free to low-cost medical/dental insurance program, has offered a budget of \$650 for dinner expenses for the event and it is expected that 150 will attend
- d. **SER/Job for Progress/Workforce Investment Board Grant** – Staff provided an update of activities being undertaken by the SER/Jobs for Progress staff in its recruitment of youth for its program. Thus far, as of April 1 there have been over 36 participants qualified for the educational/occupational placement.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Neighborhood Preservation Projects 2009** – the Committee decided to continue researching potential neighborhood preservation projects to refer to CDBG for possible funding. A future drive around the Westside Neighborhood will be scheduled in the next month or so.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:45 PM, there being no further business to come before the committee, the Westside Center Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned by Acting Chairperson, Rosalina Palacios

Respectfully submitted,
Antonio A. Velasquez
Community Services Supervisor